

that I could not see the crowd distinctly.
What I said
when the man was caught was: 'Don't hurt
him. Bring
him here. I want to look at him.' After
the bullet
I had no real pain. The wound felt hot.
"When I began
to speak my heart beat rapidly for some ten
minutes,
but aside from that about all the real trouble
I had was
that on account of my broken rib I had to
breathe quick
and short, so that I could not speak as loudly
as usual, nor
use long sentences without breathing. When I
got to the
railway car I shaved and took out the studs
and buttons
from my bloody shirt and put them in a clean
shirt, as I
thought I might be stiff next morning. This all
tired me a
little, and when I lay down in my bunk my
heart was again
beating fast enough, and my breath was short
enough, to
make me feel somewhat uncomfortable. But
after a while
I found I could turn, if I did it very carefully,
to my un-
wounded side, and then I fell asleep."

February 17,
1913.

"By the way, I remember once or twice your
speaking to
me about why the bullet was not cut out. I
never asked
the surgeon, but through Dean Sumner, who
had just been
attended by Dr. Murphy and who questioned
him about me,
I found out the reason. Dr. Murphy said that
the bullet
had splintered the inside of the rib, and one or
two of the
splinters penetrated the pleura. My speech
slightly ag-
gravated the laceration, and they were afraid
that if they
took out the bullet immediately there might
either be a
collapse of the pleura or an infection of the

pleura cavity;
and inasmuch as there was no infection for the
moment they
thought it was better to leave well enough
alone/⁵

The bullet was never extracted and he
carried it with him
to his grave. Writing to his friend, Charles GL
Washburn,
of Worcester, Mass., on March 5, 1913, he
said of it: "I
do not mind it any more than if it were in my
waistcoat
pocket."

Eoosevelt remained quietly at Oyster Bay
until he recovered
completely from his wound, taking no
active part in the